

HOW N. Y. PAPERS VIEW BAKER'S DEFENSE

Criticism Not Stilled by War Secretary's Disclosures

Other Publications Pick Many Flaws in Recital of Nation's Achievements

NEW YORK, Jan. 28. Excerpts from editorials of leading New York morning newspapers upon Secretary of War Baker's defense of the War Department follow:

Tribune In his statement to the Senate committee and to the nation yesterday Secretary Baker laid stress upon the fact that there are more than a million men in this country under arms. This in explanation of the epidemics of sickness reported from the different camps. And these million men will be sent to France just as rapidly as they can be equipped and we can find ships in which to send them.

Secretary Baker's second appearance before the Senate committee came upon a fateful day—the second of the "shut-down" Mondays, when the industries of a section of the country whose population exceeds that of the German Empire have to stop for lack of coal. Ships in the harbor wait, new ships on the ways wait, our soldiers wait, munitions wait, the Allies wait for goods and supplies, our railroads are cut down in the deliveries they can make—all for lack of coal. While we listen to the Secretary's fair words of great accomplishments and yet greater things to come, we may remember the part that he played in bringing about this standstill of industry.

World There could not be a more complete and overwhelming answer to Senator Chamberlain's charge that the military establishment of America has fallen down, than "it is a thing that does not exist," that "it has almost stopped functioning," than Secretary Baker's testimony yesterday before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs.

A military establishment that has raised and equipped the greatest army the United States has ever had, that has sent great numbers of troops to France and has 1,000,000 more that are ready to go, has not fallen down; it has not ceased to exist; it has not stopped functioning. On the contrary, it has done a work for which there is no parallel in American military annals. The test of a military establishment in the circumstances in which the United States entered this conflict is not whether an army was ready to the last button, as the Germans boasted that they were when they crossed the Belgian frontier. It is not whether there have been shortcomings and delays. It is not whether there have been errors in judgment or incidental confusion in execution. It is whether there were plans commensurate with the part that the country must play, whether there was energy in the execution of these plans, whether there was a disposition to correct errors and profit from mistakes, and whether the military establishment moved steadily forward to the accomplishment of its objects.

Measured by these tests, the War Department under Secretary Baker has written a new chapter in the military history of republics. Nevertheless, there is one lesson that the War Department should learn from this unfortunate episode, which is the necessity for fuller war publicity and for taking the American people completely into the confidence of their Government in all matters that are not undeniable military secrets.

Sun The merit of Secretary Baker's testimony before the Senate Military Committee will be measured by the specific statements of fact which it affords, not by any general denial of his that the War Department has "fallen down," or by any general asseveration that the department he administers has done in this emergency all that could be expected of human fallibility.

The country at large will withhold its judgment of the Secretary's adequacy or inadequacy until it has heard and studied all that he is able or willing to tell; but the final judgment on the main question will proceed from the bench, not from the witness stand. Neither now nor in the record of history will that verdict be colored by politics.

Times When he appeared before the Senate Military Committee yesterday to defend

found the War Department, Secretary Baker said little that was new, little that the country had not learned from the Secretary himself in previous explanatory and defensive statements. The country knew that France and Great Britain were helping the American forces with artillery, but was Mr. Baker firm ground when he said that our Allies wished to do so, because they had an excess of artillery and also because they wanted ship space for other things than American guns? As a matter of fact, there was no alternative. Our Ordnance Department did not have the guns, and it would be a long time before they could be manufactured. If the American army was to fight in 1918, artillery must be borrowed or bought from the French and British. Congress and the War Department had warned enough, extending over two years, that the United States might be, probably would be, drawn into the war, yet almost nothing was done to obtain indispensable artillery. Nor was it quite fair of Secretary Baker to saddle upon General Leonard Wood any of the responsibility for sending hundreds of thousands of men to the camps before quarters and equipment were ready. It was not a demerit of excusing omissions and blunders. The country did not know that General Wood had as much influence with the head of the War Department as the General, who was injured by an explosion in France a day or so ago, is too far away, and not in position, to give his own version.

This Winter Hardest in Last 98 Years

Continued from Page One It has been, in fact, that many of the "special" records have been shattered. Similar periods of cold have not been experienced for ninety-eight years. The daily average temperature for December and January so far has been 25.2 degrees. This is only exceeded once, in the winter of 1898-99, when the mercury averaged an even twenty-three degrees for each day of the two months. The weatherman paused a moment in his calculations as he came a knock at the door of his office. It was a boy with a copy of the official forecast from Washington. "Cold today," it said, with a lowest temperature of 24.2 and fifteen degrees, continued cold tomorrow and probably snow by night. "Encouraging, eh?" he asked. "Encouraging, eh?" he asked. "Encouraging, eh?" he asked.

Forty-three days in the last two months when the daily average temperature fell below the freezing point, they showed.

Another record gone to smash. Normally there are but nineteen such days in an entire winter season.

JANUARY SNOWFALL RECORD. Then he turned to the records of the snowfall. A total precipitation of 24.2 inches as of January 28, he found. This is not a record, the winter of 1898-99 sending down fifty inches of the downy flakes.

But he found a complete agreement exists between Vienna and Berlin regarding minimum demands which the Central Powers must attain. The newspaper adds that a complete agreement exists between Vienna and Berlin regarding minimum demands which the Central Powers must attain.

Although the huge bank of snow standing on the streets form a big problem for city officials, traffic throughout Philadelphia was about normal today. Of course, there were the little delays, but that was all.

TRAIN SERVICE RESTORED. Train service again is running to schedule and the P. R. E. is experiencing little difficulty. Some of the snow is being removed by the city. A number of teams are working in the central streets, and thirty-five trucks of the McCann Coal and Ice Company, Twelfth street and Washington avenue, which has a contract for the removal of snow from the South Philadelphia streets, are clearing up on South street near the water front. The snow is being dumped into sewers.

The snow, however, is not being carted away as rapidly as in former years. Obtaining the necessary men and teams is almost as much a problem to the city as financing the operation. Director Datedman, of the Department of Public Works, has requested Chairman Gaffney, of Council's Finance Committee, to appropriate \$20,000 for the removals. No action was promised, and some persons are wondering where the money is coming from.

Trotsky to Resist Imperialist Peace

Continued from Page One on war aims having been made before the main committee, which continues to meet when it is not in session. The project for a vote of confidence probably came up in the course of negotiations for the convocation of the Reichstag, which has been demanded by the liberal parties since the peace negotiations with Russia were begun.

The statement attributed to Count Czernin, that his speech on peace previously had been communicated to President Wilson has enraged the Pan-Germans. The statement, it is said, was greeted with loud cheers by its hearers, but was received with an outburst of rage and contumely by the Pan-Germans, whose fury it brought to a climax. The idea of any exchange of opinions between Austria and America is criticized bitterly, and, according to Count Reventlow, can only be regarded as endangering Germany's life interests.

A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam says the Dutch newspaper, De Zondag, has published a German people to revolt against the present regime.

"We, too," says this Pan-German organ, "have a Judas among us today. He appears in the red coat and mantle of Germany's hangman, who will save Germany from these traitors who are the German people." It is now "Germany help yourself, and God will help you."

Although Emperor William is not named in the article, the expression "Germany's hangman" is meant for the Kaiser, says the correspondent. Suggestion in Pan-German papers that Count von Rosenfeld, Secretary of the Treasury, is one of the four men responsible for Germany's financial situation, in the winter of 1917, has been submitted to the Emperor. One report of the incident declares that he warned the Emperor that the financial situation of Germany was such that a further development of offensive operations was inadvisable.

It is reported from Holland that the German newspaper, Die Zeitung, of Berlin has been suspended for publishing a violent article under the heading "Austria Must Be Abandoned."

The newspaper adds that a complete agreement exists between Vienna and Berlin regarding minimum demands which the Central Powers must attain.

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Count Czernin's policy in administering Austria-Hungary's foreign affairs has been endorsed by the Foreign

Hoover Asks Laus to Back Him Up

Continued from Page One all over the country because no organized distribution could be effected. The gravel got the sugar and others went without.

As to conservation measures necessary to apply to commodities needed for the army and navy for explosive purposes are estimated to us as being 150,000,000 pounds per annum and the amount necessary to maintain a stock of 100,000,000 pounds per annum. In other words there is an absolute shortage of 50,000,000 pounds per annum at the present moment which may later be partially reduced by increased production. Yet ammonia is being used to a very considerable extent in the maintenance of shipping, in the manufacture of explosives, alcoholic drinks, household ammonia, etc. I think the War Department has recognized that the maintenance of the cold storage warehouses is vital to the food supply of our people and that they may, therefore, themselves be obliged to reduce the amount of explosives manufactured and thereby possibly jeopardize our military possibilities until production can be built up.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS

During the transportation crisis we are maintaining a DAY AND NIGHT service for converting pleasure cars into trucks with our TRUX-TUN unit.

This assures a complete internal gear axle drive truck within 24 hours. Practically any make of car can be used.

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ALLIES IN ACCORD AS COUNCIL MEETS

Representatives of Entente Nations Assemble for Conference at Versailles

PARIS, Jan. 29. Representatives of the Entente countries were gathered today for another session of the Supreme Allied Council at Versailles. Premier Orlando, of Italy, who has just arrived from London, after conferring with representatives of the British Government, said that he is in complete accord with the peace principles laid down by Premier Lloyd George in his recent war aims speech.

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URGES MUNITIONS

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—The Chamber of Commerce has introduced a resolution for the creation of a munitions department in the Government. In a resolution forwarded today to the United States Chamber of Commerce the New York body requested that a referendum vote on the project be taken. The chamber will consider a proposal tomorrow to boycott Germany commercially after the war.

Columbia Records advertisement featuring illustrations of dancers and musicians. Text includes: "Over the Top", "Riviera Girl" Waltzes, "Chin Chin Chinaman", "Long Boy", "Wait till the cows come home", and "The Handy Orchestra's Jazz Dance 'Blues'".

Mawson & DeMany advertisement for fur sale. Text includes: "Furs Are Selling So Fast IN OUR SALE AT ONE-HALF AND ONE-THIRD OFF That We Cannot Quote Items For Tomorrow But We Do Say This: WE started the sale with \$125,000 worth of merchandise. So there is still tremendous variety of kind, style, price. Without doubt every woman can find the fur she wants at the price she wants to pay."

Jacob Reed's Sons advertisement for men's furnishings. Text includes: "A SALE OF Men's Furnishings Very substantial price savings in Men's Fine Furnishings—all high-class merchandise. Its only fault is that assortments are incomplete and lines are broken—a fine chance for your investment." Includes a list of items and prices.

Jacob Reed's Sons advertisement featuring an illustration of a man in a fur coat. Text includes: "Very substantial price savings in Men's Fine Furnishings—all high-class merchandise. Its only fault is that assortments are incomplete and lines are broken—a fine chance for your investment."

The Grafonola Shops advertisement for a special Wednesday sale. Text includes: "Choose this fine Grafonola outfit SPECIAL FOR WEDNESDAY \$1 down You get this complete outfit immediately 1 'Jewel' Grafonola, mahogany or oak. 10 selections of your own choice—(5 double disc 75c records). 1 album holding 34 selections. 300 needles, loud, soft and medium. 6 special fiber needles. Total Outfit \$50 on easy weekly terms Place your order early, as our supply is limited The Grafonola Shops INCORPORATED 1109 Chestnut"